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FLOOR DEBATE

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on their problems, sometimes to their satisfaction, sometimes not. In this particular case, Kinder Morgan comes in here owing the state of Nebraska Municipal Revolving Loan Fund the sum of \$785,692 plus interest in two phases: the rate review phase, which is \$390,000; and the district court phase, which is an additional \$395,692. They have refused to pay it. They have it on appeal. I have no problem with that. They have every right to go to...to go to court, but in the meantime it has caused disruption, dislocation on the part of others, notably the city of Norfolk, which had to get their own bills paid, on a separate case, had to loan the Municipal Revolving Loan Fund the money to pay its bills. Now we've been reimbursed for that, but the fact of the matter is that it's a matter of law, notably 46 something or other, 40, pardon me, 19-4617 that creates the Municipal Natural Gas Regulating Revolving Loan Fund, arranges in Section 1, in (b), that they can be reimbursed by surcharges. And Kinder Morgan is not the cheapest seller in town on gas. Their rates are sufficient to show them a decent profit. What I object to specifically, in the first instance, is the fact that they come in here owing, under the law, the Revolving Loan Fund and they have refused over several years to pay it. They lost in court, which told them that maybe the case wasn't perfect but they should pay their bill, and they have not. They appealed. But they still can come in here and say, here, help us out. I think that that is not coming in here with clean hands. They can pay it under protest and get their money back in the future if they win in court. I think that there is a second reason. We have been handed a 21-page amendment and asked to memorize it quickly, we'll have a test on it in about 30 minutes, and I don't think that's the way that we should intelligently work on legislation. So I'm not going to carry this any further. I'm going to withdraw the bracket motion, but before I do so I'll tell you that I'm going to refile one right behind it for five days from now, next...a week from tomorrow, five working days from now, to give everybody a chance to read what it is that we are supposed to be putting into law. The argument can be made that we should go ahead and do this today and get this thing done and get it on Select and we'll...we'll fix it up on Select. Well, it's a matter of trust, and since I have none, I'm going to have to defer to your wisdom on voting for the bracket motion that I'm going to put in after I pull this one. But right now,